

COUP D'ETAT.

The Latest Phase of the Jackson Railroad Difficulty.

The Memphis Party Elect a Board of Directors, and are Arrived at the Instance of Gen. Beauregard.

From the N. O. Times of Tuesday.

Yesterday being the day fixed for an adjourned meeting of the stockholders of the Jackson railroad, no election having been held on the preceding Monday, a number of the stockholders, including some half a dozen gentlemen from Mississippi, who represented the Memphis party, repaired to the office of the company, and walking into the room set aside for stockholders, were met by Gen. Beauregard and his staff, including Smith, Wm. Henderson and other gentlemen of the directory, and were told that they were trespassers, and must depart. The general was very emphatic in his remarks, and repeated his order several times, reminding the gentlemen present that an injunction was already pending, forbidding an election of directors, and that the Memphis party were trespassers, and must depart. Mr. McCann, however, stated that the gentlemen present were stockholders of the company, who had come to hold a meeting, and that they had the right to do so, at the office of the company, and that it was their intention to hold an election for a Board of Directors, the legality of which was to be determined by the courts; that all this was done with due respect to the President and Directors, but in pursuance of what they regarded their rights.

General Peter B. Stark stated that he and General Wm. Henderson were the two men who had been invited to attend this meeting, and represent the interests of the State; that they held full authority to vote in the election of the company, and they were instructed not to complicate the interests of the State in any of the legal controversies which had arisen in the company, but it was their obvious duty to be present at and participate in any of the meetings of the company, and to order for them all to leave; but no one left, and on motion of Mr. Fritchard, Thomas J. Smith, Esq., of the law firm of Smith, Fritchard & Co., was called to the chair. About this time there arrived from the Eighth District Court a certified order discontinuing the injunction issued out by Judge Adams in the election of Directors. Whereupon it was resolved to proceed to an election of Directors of the company for the ensuing year. Commissioners were appointed and the election proceeded. One hundred and nineteen thousand shares were voted, among which were the shares of the city of Memphis, which were voted by Mayor Flanders, who stated that he was clear in his conviction that the city had the right to vote. The city's vote was recorded, and with a protest of H. S. McCann, who claimed that he had bought the said stock and had the right to vote it.

The election, however, proceeded quietly to a conclusion, when, all the votes having been counted, it was declared that they had received all the votes polled. H. S. McCann, J. H. Olesby, J. B. Alexander, Richard Pritchard, E. B. Summers, S. H. Kennedy, F. J. Pratt, A. N. Grier, William Smith, L. J. Ford, A. A. Schmitt, A. Gordon, J. M. C. Noddy, E. E. Houston, J. C. Lucas, E. L. Sanders, F. J. Mitchell, B. F. Hatch.

During the election, however, General Stark and West, of Mississippi, retired, the first named gentleman stating that, as he had been personally ordered out of the office by General Beauregard, he would no longer remain under the stigma of a trespasser, nor permit the name of his company to be used in connection with the election. He stated that he was going on, and the doors of the main entrance into the building were closed by order of General Beauregard, and the shareholders could only make their exit through the President's room, where they were expected to wait until the wrath and malice of Mr. William Henderson, one of the Directors. Finally, however, a policeman arrived and ordered all the persons engaged in holding the election, and took them over to the Recorder's office, where they all gave bonds for their appearance to-day. Among the arrested parties was the unoffending reporter of the Times, who was merely on hand to observe and note the occurrences.

We have not time nor space to remark upon the occurrences we have related. We have, however, a fully decided opinion as to whether the election of a directory was legal or not, that the stockholders of the company have a right to elect a directory in an orderly and peaceful manner to proceed with any business relating to the property of which they are joint owners, and that General Beauregard committed a grave error when he treated them as trespassers and intruders. It was not proper to shut them out, or any other officers of the company, or to attempt to exclude from the building, or to deprive them of their rights as joint owners of the stock of the company, nor is it for him or them to attempt to determine what their rights are. As the election was held in a room which was not longer a pretext for interference with any peaceful action of the stockholders, it might, in the proper manner, be taken in the premises. The indignation, ill-temper and excitement manifested by the directors and their assistants, and in bad taste, and the resort to a complaint before the Recorder, and arrest of the stockholders, are all entirely unjustifiable. We hope that, with the calm reflection of the night, these gentlemen will awake to a more sober, discreet and dignified mode of resistance and warfare.

From the New Orleans Picayune of Tuesday.

ARREST OF THE MEMPHIS PARTY.—Yesterday, a "South 3000" General G. T. Beauregard, and Judge Houghton, and a number of other gentlemen, appeared before the First District Court, and made a motion for an order of arrest against the Memphis party, including H. S. McCann, C. H. Hines, J. W. Bartlett, E. L. Summers, J. B. Fritchard, E. J. Pratt, and others, charging them with trespassing upon the rights and personal property of the Jackson Railroad Company.

Our Telegraphic Despatches are from the American Press Association, and the S. P. and A. Telegraph Company.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.

Great Loss of Life by the Falling of a Floor in the State Capitol at Richmond, Va.

From the N. O. Times of Tuesday.

RICHMOND, April 27.—A terrible calamity occurred in this city to-day. The floor of the Court of Appeals in the State Capitol, during the session of the court, gave way, and a number of the judges and lawyers, including some half a dozen gentlemen from Mississippi, who represented the Memphis party, were killed, and a number of others were injured. The accident occurred while the court was sitting in the Hall of the House of Delegates below.

It is impossible to ascertain the extent of the injuries at this time. Among the killed are A. H. Aylett, a distinguished lawyer; Dr. J. B. Brock, Reporter on the Enquirer and Examiner; Samuel P. Clark, clerk of the House of Delegates; N. P. Howard, lawyer; Ash Leary, a Richmond merchant; Chas. Ware, of Danville; R. R. Huph Hatcher and Lewis N. Webb, of this city; Schofield, a brother of Gen. Schofield; R. H. Murray, Jr., Senators Blain, Curtis and Fowhann Roberts.

It is supposed that twenty members of the State Legislature are killed and wounded. Judges of the Court of Appeals, and several of the judges of the lower courts, were also injured. The accident occurred while the court was sitting in the Hall of the House of Delegates below.

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It seems from the statement of the complainants, that the persons named, claiming to be the owners and holders of stock in the Jackson Railroad Company, entered the building of the corporation under Old Fellows' Hall, proceeded to the Directors' room, and, by the election of Directors, as shown by the fact made known to Gen. Beauregard, he went to the room, and inquired their business. They stated their purpose, and announced their right to do so. This Gen. Beauregard denied, and requested them to retire. They refused to do so, and were arrested, and again disgraced.

Several persons proposed proceeding with violence, but this course was objected to by the General, and ordering the gas to be turned off, he locked the doors and at once went in search of the Recorder. A warrant was issued upon the affidavit, and officers Marks went to the Directors' room, and took them into custody. Having been taken to the Central Station, they were released by Judge Houghton upon giving their personal bonds for \$500 to appear at a certain day to answer the charge preferred.

It is in this condition the matter rests.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Tariff-Messengers in Hot Water.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27.—The Ways and Means Committee has become alarmed at the action of the House in refusing to increase the duty on various grades of iron. A full meeting was held this morning. After some discussion, the Committee directed the striking out of sections in the tariff bill not already considered by the House, relating to iron, which proposed an increase of duty as now imposed by law. This course was advised by leading protectionists, for fear the House will reduce the duty on various kinds of iron. The bill, as modified by the Committee, does not propose any increase in the tariff on iron, but leaves the present law unchanged.

The Pious Howard Cornered.

The Howard Investigating Committee this forenoon examined John R. Howard, who testified that he purchased said farm for \$50,000, but knew nothing of the subsequent division and sale thereof. The other trustees were S. C. Pomeroy, Gen. Howard and Charles H. Howard.

R. M. Hall, real estate agent, testified to the sale of the Barry Farm and Howard University property.

Grant on His Travels.

The Senate discussed polygamy, and will vote on it Saturday.

The House Judiciary Committee heard further argument from Judge Marshall in favor of McCann's claims.

President Grant and family leave the city to-morrow to spend a few days at W. B. Rorer's.

The Funding Bill.

The Ways and Means Committee directed the striking out of sections in the funding bill, relating to the strength of the administration against it.

Loyal Southerners.

Two attempts were made on Tuesday by Southern members to secure the passage of a joint resolution commending the House to the policy of paying loyal Southern claimants for property taken and damages sustained during the war.

The House Committee Expected to Report Favorably for it.

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1870.—If the South is chosen out of a Southern Pacific railway, it will be through the machinations of carpet-baggers, who have failed to secure black mail from the legitimate projectors of such an enterprise. When it was announced that Gen. Fremont was coming to Washington in the interest of the Memphis and El Paso road, and it was further whispered that he was well supplied with funds, the lobby rallied its hands with great glee and in imagination fingered bonds and greenbacks galore. But Gen. Fremont would have none of them. He said neither bonds or greenbacks to distribute among the lobby; and so the lobby set to work to defeat the bill. Prominent in this disreputable business are the Southern carpet-baggers. Bills have been introduced in Congress for building a Southern Pacific railway, which contain either the names of men of straw as corporations, or no corporations at all.

The object of the introducers and backers of these bills is to secure a black mail. Only this, and nothing else.

It may seem strange that men of this kind should be so successful in the States should endeavor to defeat the only enterprise likely to successfully subvert the Mississippi.

Atlantic to the Pacific, through Southern territory, but it should be recollected that these men really represent only their own pockets. This they generally succeed in doing.

Now before both Houses of Congress granting the right of way and other privileges to the Southern Trans-Continental railway.

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